for training smugglers in many Asian countries.

(c) Reports received by the Government indicate that carriers of contraband gold particularly who conceal gold inside their body cavities are made to practice in keeping contraband in their person for several hours before they actually carry the contraband into India. This sort of training is organised by financiers and agents abroad who arrange the smuggling of gold through carriers.

**Evasion of customs duty by M/s. Standard Motors Product of India**

2628. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation has recently detected frauds worth crores of rupees during the searches conducted on the business and residential premises of the Directors of M/s. Standard Motors Product of India, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether M/s. Standard Motors Products of India has evaded customs duty to the tune of crores of rupees; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take against the Directors and Managing Directors of the firm and full details of the evasion of customs duty and other frauds detected by CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigation have carried out searches of certain premises connected with M/s. Standard Motors Product of India and are investigating into complaints of fraud and evasion of duty.

(c) Appropriate action under the law woud be taken against the defaulters on the basis of findings in the investigation after it is completed.

**Armed police guards for currency chests**

2629. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has again impressed upon the State Governments and Union Territories the need for providing armed police guard for currency chests;

(b) whether it is a fact that some State Governments are not following the directions of the Central Government for providing armed police guards for currency chests; and

(c) if so, what further measures Central Government propose to take with the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (c) All currency chest branches of public sector banks are guarded by armed guards. In addition to other security measures, where necessary, help of armed police guard is also being taken. Within the resources available State Governments are fully cooperating in providing security for currency chests.

**Detection of uranium smuggling gang**

2630. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a whether it is a fact that smuggling uranium gang was detected in the second week of December, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) As per information collected from Police

Authorities at Jamshedpur six persons of a smuggling gang were arrested on 5.12.1986. Four samples out of the seized material were tested and they did not contain any uranium.

(c) Strict security measures exist in the Uranium Mine and Mill Complex at Jaduguda.

**Replacement of the Rolls Royce RB-199 engine of the Light Combat Aircraft**

2631. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1873 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether Government's decision to replace the Rolls Royce RB-199 engine of the Light Combat Aircraft by the GE F-404 is likely to affect the schedule of the Project; and

(b) what is the present progress on the indigenous GTX engine for the Light Combat Aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Various engine options were examined for use as the interim power plant in the LCA and finally the General Electric F-404 has been selected. The decision on the choice of the interim power plant would not have any effect on the schedule of the project.

(b) Design specifications of the GTX variant for the LCA have been evolved. Some of the technologies and the systems of this variant are under development and testing.

**Allegations against Doordarshan and All India Radio**

2632. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some members of Parliament in their communication to the Minister, have alleged that the Government controlled media-TV and All India Radio continue as before to take an anti-opposition stances taking recourse to all sorts of distortions and untruths in editing and preparing scripts of giving news and opinions;

(b) what are names of these members of Parliament; and

(c) what are the details of the allegations made by them, and Governments reaction to the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) As news organisations, both All India Radio and Doordarshan adhere to the policy guidelines prepared by the Advisory Committee on Official Media and present news|programmes in an objective, balanced and Factual manner. Allegations made by Members of Parliament against AIR|TV regarding distortions in coverage, etc. are looked into carefully. Such allegations have been found to be without basis.

Recently (January, 1987), a letter was received from Smt. Kanak Mukherjee, Member of Parliament, which contains similar allegations. Details of allegations made in the letter and comments thereon are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

The broad allegations made by Smt. Kanak Mukherjee, MP in her letter are:—

(i) discrimination against the leaders of the Left Front and State Ministers in terms of coverage on AIR and Doordarshan;

(ii) distortion of Shri M. J. Akbar's interview with the Chief Minister, West Bengal, telecast on 28-12-1986; and

(iii) repeated broadcast|telecast of Prime Minister's announcement of allocations to Govt. of West Bengal and ignoring Chief Minister's contradiction thereof.

The position in regard to the above allegations is given in the following paragraphs.